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Contact: Jonathon Pyles or
Pamela Gregg
gregg@udayton.edu

NEWS RELEASE

GRENADA TO OPEN 2000-2001 ARTS SERIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

DAYTON, Ohio — The University of Dayton Arts Series will open its 2000-2001 season with Grenada, the national folk ensemble of Russia whose performances embrace world musical traditions in more than 30 languages.

Grenada will perform at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, in the Kennedy Union Boll Theatre. Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$7 for UD faculty and staff and \$5 for students, and are available by calling the theater box office at (937) 229-2545.

Formed in 1978, Grenada has performed more than 5000 concerts in more than 40 countries. Its music has earned numerous awards including the prestigious Arthur Bekker Gold Medal Award.

The group is comprised of a core of six musicians. At times a small number of Russian youth perform with them. These children are members of Grenadita, a youth auxiliary of Grenada, who are mentored by Grenada, studying music and world culture each week.

Grenada's music director, Sergey Vladimirsky, has become a Russian icon, earning a place in the Guinness Book of Records for his proficiency in playing more than 400 musical instruments. Other members are also recognized as leading authorities in the study of music — they teach at the university level and have had their work published.

When they perform at the UD, members of the group will bring about 75 instruments with them. With such a wide range of instruments, they harmonize the traditional sounds of balalaikas and guitars with the rare sounds of Russian folk instruments such as the sharkunki and treshotki.

Grenada's North American tour is sponsored by Crosscurrents International Institute of Ohio. This nonprofit organization raises the level of American knowledge about other cultures and opens minds and hearts through the international language of music.

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For media interviews, call **Barbra Lupp** at (937) 229-2787.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
300 College Park Dayton, Ohio 45469-1679
(937) 229-3241 (937) 229-3063 Fax
www.udayton.edu